Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 1 and 16 as amended, as well as those claims that depend therefrom, are patentable over the cited reference.

## CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider the application and claims in light of this Response, and respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, in his review of this Response or after further examination, a telephonic interview would expedite the favorable prosecution of the present application, the Applicants' attorney would welcome the opportunity to discuss any outstanding issues, and to work with the Examiner toward placing the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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Reg. No. 56,401

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